**Poetry Circles Group Discussion Guide**

All students in the group are asked to read their poem aloud to the other group members. Speakers should try to read their poem with expression (using the grammatical cues provided by the author as a guideline), while group members should listen well to try and understand the meaning of this poem. After reading the poem, discuss the following points in your group:

1. After the reading, discuss what you heard, “saw” or “felt” as a result of the reading.
2. The reader then shares what is important to him/her about the chosen poem.
3. What does this poem illustrate – any particular poetic devices in play?
4. What effect did they have on your experience as a listener (or reader)?
5. How effective was this poem in describing its topic or subject? Explain your response with examples.
6. What is the poem’s most striking aspect? Why?
7. What kind of image – or picture – did the poem present for you?

Once all the poems have been read in your group, decide on one you would like to share with the class. Prepare a reading which includes as many group members as want to participate, and select a spokesperson to share your analysis with the class.